



Rotary

Club of Greer



UNITE FOR GOOD



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Club Meeting

Greer
La Joya Bar & Grill,
219 Trade St. Greer,
SC 29651 1st and 3rd
Tuesdays 05:30 PM

February Theme

FEBRUARY IS

PEACEBUILDING & CONFLICT PREVENTION MONTH

Promote understanding through dialogue, mediation, and conflict resolution workshops.

Midyear Momentum and What's Ahead

As we move into the second half of the Rotary year, I want to take a moment to check in, reflect, and look ahead together.

This year was designed intentionally. Our focus has been on building strong committees, increasing engagement, and creating a visible impact in our community, all while keeping an eye on long-term sustainability. I'm proud of the energy and commitment our members continue to bring to the club.

One of our biggest milestones right now is our signature fundraiser, **Dining Around Greer**, which is officially in motion.

This event continues to be a cornerstone of our club's impact and a great example of how service, fellowship, and community support come together. Thank you to everyone who has already stepped up to help plan, promote, and participate. The momentum is real, and it matters.

On the membership front, we remain focused on steady, intentional growth. We set a clear goal for the year, and while there is still work ahead, we are encouraged by the conversations





Anna
Ryan
President



Lance
Pittman
President-
Elect



Amy
Sherrill
McBurnie
Secretary



Deanna
Austin
Treasurer

happening and the guests being invited. Growth for us is not just about numbers, it's about building a club where people feel connected, valued, and excited to participate.

To support that effort, we will be launching a **membership survey later this month**. This survey is an important opportunity for you to share honest feedback about what's working well and where we can improve. Your input will help guide decisions around meetings, service opportunities, communication, and the overall club experience. Strong clubs listen, and this is part of that commitment.

You may also hear conversations around **future meeting space**. As our current location prepares for a remodel, we are thoughtfully exploring options that allow flexibility in the short term while keeping an eye on a space we can grow into long-term. Our priority is a welcoming, accessible environment that supports both fellowship and future growth. We will plan an interim solution as we evaluate longer-term possibilities, and members will be kept informed as plans take shape.

The second half of the year is about follow-through. Deepening relationships. Executing well-planned service and fundraising projects. Inviting others to experience Rotary. And continuing to build a club that feels organized, welcoming, and worth showing up for.

Thank you for the time, energy, and heart you bring to this club. I'm excited about where we're headed and grateful to be serving alongside you.

~Anna

January Meeting Highlights

Our January meetings kicked off the new year with great fellowship, fresh locations, and exciting momentum for our biggest fundraiser.



On **January 6**, we tried out a new meeting spot at **Southern Growl** and welcomed guest speaker **Allison Elder, Executive Director of Time Served**. Allison shared an inspiring overview of the organization's work supporting incarcerated and formerly incarcerated individuals across South Carolina, helping them successfully reenter their communities. Her presentation sparked meaningful conversation and reminded us of the powerful impact local nonprofits are making every day.

On **January 20**, we were back at **La Joya Bar & Grill** for a major update on **Dining Around Greer**, now just one month away at the time of this newsletter's release. Planning is well underway, and it's all hands on deck! Everyone is encouraged to continue working toward our goals for **sponsors, raffle prizes, and gift cards**. Please help spread the word — **share our posts, sell tickets, and keep the momentum going** as we count down to a fantastic event.



Greer and Mauldin Rotarians Unite for Rise Against Hunger

The Rotary Club of Greer recently joined the Mauldin Rotary Club and other community volunteers to support Mauldin's annual Rise Against Hunger service project. This collaborative effort continues a long-standing tradition of service and fellowship among our clubs.



Representing the Greer club were Autumn Lawhun and her husband, Alex, along with Kyle Brook and Mark Moreno. The Greer Rotary Club has proudly participated in this project on an annual basis, and we extend a heartfelt **thank you to our Greer members for their continued dedication and willingness to serve.**

Members from the Mauldin Rotary Club included President Bob Stouffer, Norman Bunn, Emilio Porras, and Mauldin Mayor Terry Merritt, who volunteered alongside his wife, Diane. Additional support came from Families in Motion — a group of Colombians living in Greenville — as well as students from the Interact Clubs at Mauldin High School and Southside Christian High School, who also participate each year.

Rise Against Hunger provides nutritious meals to school-aged children in food-insecure regions around the world. Thanks to the combined efforts of all volunteers, an impressive **11,880 meals were packaged in just under one hour.**

This event is always awe-inspiring and humbling, and it serves as a powerful teaching moment for our younger volunteers. We are grateful to everyone who contributed their time and energy to make a meaningful impact in the lives of children around the globe.



February Meetings: Let's Finish Strong!



February will be a busy and exciting month for the Rotary Club of Greer as we shift into high gear for the final stretch of planning for Dining Around Greer. We will also throw in some extra fun with Rotary learning moments, games, and time for fellowship, so be sure to join us!

We will meet on **February 3** and **February 17** at **5:30 PM** at **La Joya Bar & Grill**.

These meetings are an important opportunity for members to stay informed, align our responsibilities, and help push us across the finish line for Dining Around Greer.

Whether you're helping secure sponsors, gathering raffle prizes and gift cards, selling tickets, sharing posts online, or just learning what this is all about, your involvement makes a real difference. Bring your updates, ideas, and energy — and don't forget to invite a guest who might want to learn more about Rotary and our work in the community.

Let's keep the momentum strong and make Dining Around Greer one of our best events yet!

Rotary Club of Greer to Present Adaptive Pickleball Wheelchair

The Rotary Club of Greer is proud to announce that we will present a new adaptive sports wheelchair to **Adaptive Pickleball (APB)** on **Monday, February 9 at 5:30 PM, at Tryon Park**. This wheelchair was made possible through our club's fundraising efforts, combined with a matching District Grant, and represents another meaningful investment in accessibility and inclusion in our community.

Adaptive Pickleball is a local 501(c)(3) nonprofit dedicated to making pickleball fun, accessible, and life-changing for individuals with physical and cognitive challenges — including veterans. Based in Greer and serving the Upstate, APB works to break down barriers to recreation while promoting physical, social, and emotional well-being for players of all abilities.



The need for adaptive equipment continues to grow. In 2024 alone, Adaptive Pickleball hosted 90 play days and served 1,155 individuals, including 358 participants with physical limitations, providing therapeutic and recreational opportunities that improve mobility, confidence, and community connection.

Our District Grant funded the purchase of one specialized wheelchair designed specifically for pickleball, allowing more athletes to safely participate in the sport. Rotary branding will be proudly displayed on the chair and at events, reflecting our club's commitment to service and partnership in the community.

Club members are encouraged to attend the presentation on February 9. We will have our Rotary banner on display and the opportunity to personally present the chair to APB. After the presentation, members are welcome to stay and play pickleball or simply visit with the players and learn more about this inspiring program.

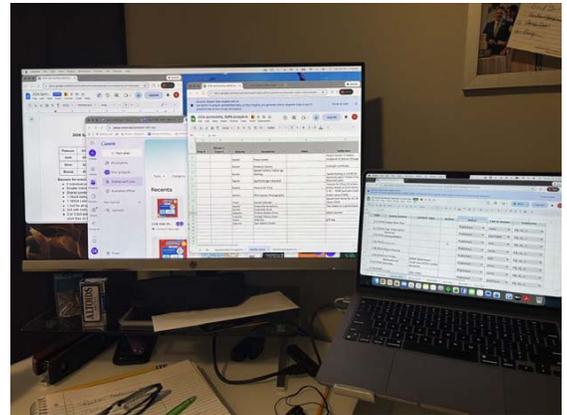
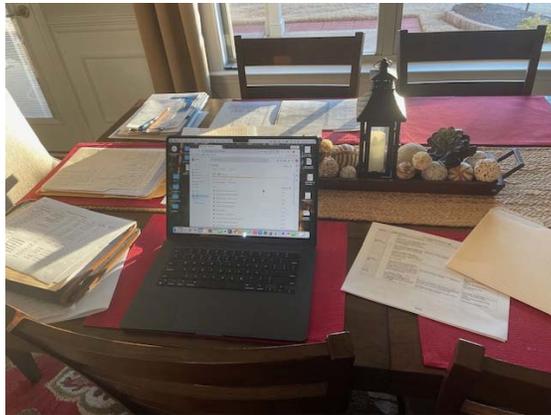
This project highlights how our fundraising efforts directly translate into life-changing impact—expanding access, supporting veterans and adaptive athletes, and strengthening our connection to the Greer community. We hope to see many members there to celebrate this special moment of "Service Above Self."



Dining Around Greer February Update

Rachel sent me this note and I can relate...

"Working on DAG every working minute of every working day. Go out and get Sponsors, Gift Cards/Certificates, Raffle prizes, sell tickets!"



(L: Rachel's Dining Table, R: Carrie's Office)

In all seriousness, we need **sponsors, raffle prizes, and — new this year — gift cards/certificates** valued at \$20 & up for our mystery certificate wall where everyone is guaranteed to win!

If you haven't joined a group, check out the committee list and see where you might help out prior to the event as well as at the event.

Save the Date

SAVE THE DATE

Feb 3: Club Meeting, La Joya

Feb 9: Wheelchair Presentation to APB, 5:30 PM, Tryon Park

Feb 17: Club Meeting, La Joya

Mar 1: Dining Around Greer!

Apr 25: Greer Goes Global International Festival

(Stay tuned for more updates via email & website!)



Upcoming RLI Dates



Expand Your Rotary Horizon

Ready to connect beyond our club? Join a **Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI)** session to learn more about Rotary, share best practices, and problem-solve with fellow leaders.

Future Winter RLI Dates

Online Options: Feb 10-11 (Part II), Mar 17-18 (Part III)
Local Options: March 7, Anderson, Parts I, II, III

There are other training opportunities farther away if you want to travel.

Ready to register? Log into DACdb and head to the "Calendar" or "RLI Training" tabs. If you've forgotten your login, don't sweat it — just reach out to Amy for a quick reset.

Rotary in Ireland



While strolling the streets of Cork, Ireland, Carrie Krause spotted this large posting on the side of a building undergoing renovations! A reminder that wherever Rotary is, we need to keep our branding clean, repaired, and up-to-date!

Have you seen a Rotary sign on your travels? Send a picture and your story to newseditor@rotarygreer.org.

UNITE FOR GOOD Car Raffle: Win a 2026 Chevrolet TRAX!

Deadline for Tickets extended!

Rotary District 7750 is excited to launch the **UNITE FOR GOOD Car Raffle**, with one lucky winner driving home a **2026 Chevrolet TRAX!** Every \$100 ticket helps fund **Leadership Development** at our 2026 District Conference and supports the **Youth Exchange Program**.

Only **550 tickets** are available — get yours before they're gone! Sales run **Oct 15 – Mar 27** (or until sold out). **Drawing:** Mar 27 at 3 PM on District 7750 social media.

How to enter:
Venmo @Rotary-Foundation-568 (with your contact info),
Mail a check to
Pleasantburg Rotary Foundation, 308 Hampton Ave., Greenville, SC 29601, or email

District7750Raffle@gmail.com for cash arrangements.

Full details at pleasantburgrotary.org/rotary-raffle

Thank you to the Pleasantburg Rotary Club for hosting the raffle site!

Let's make this a sell-out success and show how Rotarians **Unite for Good!**

— Dave Brenner, District Governor 2025-2026



UNITE FOR GOOD
Car Raffle
\$100 per ticket
Only 550 tickets sold!

WIN A 2026 Chevrolet TRAX!
Drawing December 12, 2025

Rotary District 7750
PROUDLY SPONSORED BY
LMC
LANCASTER MOTOR COMPANY
FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1923



Don't wait tickets will go fast!

Your chance to support Rotary in District 7750 and drive away in a brand-new car.

Rotary Youth Exchange
Life-changing international experiences for high school students, building future global leaders with empathy and cultural understanding.

Club Member Leadership Development
Connecting and empowering local professionals to drive leadership, service, and meaningful community impact through Rotary.
Every ticket fuels programs that transform lives.

One lucky winner will receive a 2026 Chevrolet TRAX (MSRP \$22,300)